[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the Government that in Himachal Pradesh a decision has been taken to recruit 9,000 voluntary teachers. Unfortunately, the State Government has taken a decision not to include Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Schemes. It is a great injustice on the part of the State Government to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the State Government must be told in clear terms about it. I can say this thing authoritatively (*Interruptions*)... According to a reply given in the State Legislative Assembly, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will not be taken, since it is primarily meant for B.J.P. men. I would like to request that the matter may please be got enquired into by the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development as the Ministry allocates funds for the scheme. And if this is not possible, action against the State Government should be taken.

I would like to raise yet another point. There was a scheme Rural Development Scheme by name. The State Government changed its name to 'Antyodhya Programme' in violation of the norms laid down by the Central Government.

The Rohru sub-division in Himachal Pradesh is falling under my constituency. Office of the Shimla Electricity Division is also located three. There villages in the area were devastated by lightening. I have also given in writing and would like to urge the Government of India, that since the State Government is not going to pay compensation to the affected villages, the Government of India should give them some relief. Apple growers in Himachal Pradesh are going to launch an agitation shortly. I would like to submit that the State Government should be asked as to why it did not stick to its decision to procure 4,000 tonnes of apple from the growers. New crops have come. An injustice is being done to the farmers. Therefore, I demand that the State Government should be dismissed.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the inordinate delay in implementing the modernisation programme of the Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO), Burnpur.

Sir, this is the best located Steel Plant, which is directly connected with two major railway network. And it was the cheapest producer of iron and steel for four decades. But due to financial mismanagement, shutting down of some productive units, obsolete and outmoded technology, it steadily declined since sixties and even. after taking over by the Government, it could not recover.

Sir, the Government decided to modernise this Plant and asked MN Dastur & Company to prepare a feasibility report. They prepared the report. But the Government did not accept it. Then, the SAIL approached the Japanese Government for modernisation, which prepared and submitted the Basic Engineering Report in 1989, with a 1.8 million capacity and proposed the cost to be Rs.6030 crores. But it was also found non-viable. Finally the SAIL reviewed the project and asked Dastur & Company to prepare a Cost Reduction Study, which was completed in March, 1990. Accordingly an investment proposal of Rs.5084 crores including foreign exchange was submitted to the Public Investment Board for clearance. But no decision has been taken yet.

Sir, I know that the Minister is sympathetic to this programme. But some inside and outside vested interests are creating hindrance in taking a final decision and implementing the modernisation programme.

Through you, Sir, I urge upon the Government to take the final decision immediately and implement this programme in this year itself.